

CLAIMS

1. An amphibious vehicle having a body, retractable road wheels mounted to the body and arranged to be moved from a lower road engaging position in a land mode to an upper faired position in a marine mode, at least one of the road wheels having a wheel suspension, the suspension comprising a suspension member having a bearing for supporting the wheel, the suspension member being connected to the body by at least one upper link and one lower link, the bearing being ahead of any connection of the or each lower link with the vehicle body.
2. An amphibious vehicle according to claim 1, characterized in that the bearing is also ahead of any connection of the or each lower link with the suspension member.
3. An amphibious vehicle according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the wheel has an asymmetric rim profile, and the upper link(s) and lower link(s) support said wheel only on that side of the wheel which faces the vehicle.
4. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the upper link(s) and lower link(s) extend substantially transversely across the vehicle.
5. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the road wheel longitudinally overlaps at least one of the connections of a lower link to the vehicle body.
6. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that at least two of the road wheels each have a wheel suspension, each suspension comprising a suspension member having a bearing for supporting the wheel, the suspension member being connected to the body by at least one upper link and one lower link, the bearing being ahead of any connection of the or each lower link with the vehicle body.

7. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the driven wheel(s) driven by a drive shaft or shafts have their shaft bearing(s) ahead of the lower link connection(s) to the vehicle body.
- 5 8. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the driven road wheel(s) longitudinally overlap the vehicle engine.
9. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the vehicle has at least four road wheels, all of which wheels are mounted to the vehicle's body with their bearings ahead of the or each lower link connection to the vehicle body.
- 10 10. An amphibious vehicle according to any of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the vehicle has at least four road wheels, and in that all of the driven wheels are mounted to the vehicle's body with their drive shaft bearings ahead of the or each lower link connection to the vehicle body.
- 15 11. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that at least one of the lower suspension links is a track control arm.
- 20 12. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that the vehicle is a planing vehicle with a mid-mounted transverse engine.
13. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, characterized in that a suspension upper link comprises a suspension strut.
- 25 14. An amphibious vehicle substantially as described with reference to any one or more of Figures 1, 2, 3, or 4 of the accompanying drawings.